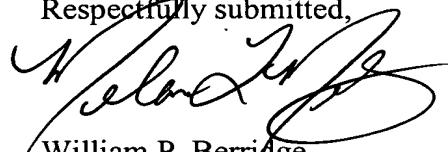


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-35 are pending. This Preliminary Amendment conforms the specification to the Sequence Listing filed November 21, 2003, and corrects minor informalities in the specification. Prompt and favorable examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 12, 2004

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